

\$4 Million For North Village Sewer Plant

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9-20-80

Property owners within the North Village Special Service District met Thursday, Sept. 14, to hear a preliminary report on the cost of installing a sewer system.

Wasatch County Assistant Planner Sharon Atkinson told a handful of property owners that her numbers were "very preliminary."

She said building a sewer treatment plant in North Village could be one-third to half the cost of hooking on to Heber City's sewer system. She said it could cost up to \$12.5 million to hook up to Heber's system. In addition, property owners will be assessed an impact fee of \$3,290 per equivalent residential unit (ERU).

Building a sewage treatment center in North Village, based on a 300,000-gallon plant, could cost up to \$4 million. Atkinson added, however, that the numbers still needed a lot of "tweaking."

Atkinson said the property owners have three choices. They can hook up to the Heber City's irrigation sewer system which processes sewage by spreading it over acres of city-owned fields. Alfalfa is grown in the fields, which in turn, is cut and fed to beef cattle and horses. The water is filtered naturally as it is absorbed by the soil.

The second choice is to build a mechanical water treatment system. This includes the pipelines from homes to the treatment center, holding ponds, and a building to conceal the treatment center. Atkinson said after the water is treated in this type of system it is close to drinking water quality. The water will be released into the Provo River or held in storage tanks and marketed as irrigation water.

"Cost-wise, this is feasible. Politically...it's a little tough," Atkinson said.

One of the obstacles in the mechanical sewer treatment system, according to Atkinson, is that Wasatch County has a contract with the state protecting drinking water coming from Deer Creek and Jordanelle reservoirs. The contract mandates that no treated water can be released into any of the drainages into the reservoirs.

Consequently, Wasatch County will have to seek a discharge permit from the state. Atkinson said she has made contact with state officials. Atkinson said that the officials gave her reason to believe that Wasatch County's application for a discharge permit, if all requirements are met, could be successful. She said she prefers not to name her contact in the Division of Water Quality office as her discussion with the official was "very informal."

ERS

Readers

gas, oil, tires, and exhaust into the environment. The area proposed for the sports park is the new "living room of Heber City."

Heber has already seen the building of the [justice] center, the new hospital, the new doctors' office building currently under construction. How this continues to develop will define the identity and future of Heber for generations. This development will decide what kinds of businesses will be attracted to Heber and what will not, thus my concern for the long term effects on the area, despite the illusive millions dangled before our eyes.

Additionally, since this area is adjacent to the emergency access to the hospital, it is also an area that will be particularly sensitive to traffic patterns and noise, not to mention the ability of doctors and staff to do their job and patients heal. At this point in my research into the question, I firmly believe that 20,000 cars per big event plus the unknown numbers of "mini-events" foreseen for "Sports Park" in that area of Heber doesn't mesh with more common uses of the land given present development. There are just too many negative tradeoffs and better things to put into the "living room" of Heber.

Secondly, facts. I've started to do some investigation and have talked with a representative of the Springville police force concerning the race track there. He was asked that our community was even considering such a thing for the proposed location in Heber.

The race track in Springville is beyond city limits close to the highway. The police official also said that even given a remote location, the racetrack roar could be heard four to five miles away. This means in Heber that you could hear the races as far as Lake Creek development or Midway.

The echo effect of our rimming mountains could mean that on a good day you could hear them in Timber Lakes even over the mountains. This police official made a great suggestion that we get a few cars and motorcycles of the type proposed for Heber's track, and race them around the block outside of City Hall during the next meeting for people near the building to get the true effect. I think this is a great suggestion, not for the fact we might be ticketed or arrested for exactly the same public nuisance that the developers are asking be legalized at a track next to a hospital. Despite Springville Track's remote location and potential competition for population in the valley, it is now closed, gone belly-up because it could not compete with the improvements made to Rocky Mountain Raceway out of Salt Lake City. Is the race track industry thus a good long term development strategy for Heber when someone is already meeting many of these needs in the Wasatch area?

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The third option, Atkinson said, is to do nothing. It is unlikely that property owners will pursue that option as it will result in no development in North Village, Atkinson said.

Another area of concern discussed at Thursday's meeting between Atkinson and the property owners is what type of "look" they wanted for the developments that will come to the 4,000-acre area of the North Village Special Service District.

Atkinson said she didn't want to see the North Village end up with "hodgepodge development." She said the

property owners could dictate conditions, covenants, and restrictions (CC&Rs) as to the "general style, color and feel" of any future development. But, she cautioned, "We don't want to end up with a cookie cutter look, either."

The group discussed the idea of requiring buildings to use no-maintenance exterior materials such as stucco, natural and cultured stone, brick and vinyl.

Atkinson said Wasatch County was involving itself in the development phase of the North Village Special Service District to avoid the extra cost of hiring consultants to examine concept plans submitted by developers.

option, doesn't it? Just stick a Post-It note on the under-the-table spending, stick it in a drawer and forget about it.

Under the current rules of the House, any member of Congress

for any unpopular "Yes" votes. The Rules Committee lets them off the hook and out of the loop.

Congressman Tancredo—a citizen legislator who has pledged to step down from his

believe.

High fences often mean high entrance fees due to insurance costs. And, how many of us would really use it? Is this development for only a few in the valley (how many of us race cars or motorcycles?) when we need recreation that benefits a majority of tax paying families in the city whose taxes will go to build the roads, pay the police, etc. to support this facility?

We must also remind ourselves of the old nursery rhyme, The Goose Who Laid the Golden

these.

People are obviously free to read what they like and practice any sport they like as long as it doesn't impact negatively or hurt other people.

Additionally, the rape incident I described previously occurred outside of Yankton, South Dakota (at the other end of the state from Sturgis, so they obviously didn't know about it) and I am currently calling the two county sheriffs, city police, and local newspaper, in an attempt to get a case study num-